TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

A3275-2

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 16, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 11 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 9.0 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 32 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 568.4 billion ton-miles, 15.0 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 11 totaled 401,852, up 6.5 percent from last year, but 0.8 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 15.2 percent in the East, 5.6 percent in the South and 1.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 13 of the 21 commodity groups declined, but coal loadings, which continue to reflect the effect of heavy stockpiling, showed an increase of 19,082 cars (17.1 percent). Motor vehicles and equipment loadings were up 2,997 cars (22.2 percent). Fifteen of the 21 groups showed decreases from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 4 totaled 51,916 cars, up 13.6 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 88,640 trailers and/or containers, 11.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 31 weeks of the year was 1,562,995 cars, 16.4 percent higher than last year, and 2,701,519 trailers and/or containers, up 16.5 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/11/84:

	Loadings in Week ended August 11, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,378	D	2,047	7.0	I	457	1.7
Other farm products	2,540	D	1,195	32.0	D	9	0.4
Metallic ores	17,440	D	800	4.4	D	1,639	9.4
Coal	130,809	I	19,082	17.1	I	1,074	0.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,805	I	1,430	12.6	I	229	1.8
Nonmetallic minerals	12,468	I	2,069	19.9	D	315	2.5
Grain mill products	10,242	D	1,124	9.9	D	155	1.5
Food and kindred products	10,373	D	1,191	10.3	D	551	5.3
Primary forest products	13,480	D	707	5.0	I	621	4.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,035	I	174	2.5	D	277	3.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,466	D	332	2.2	D	449	3.1
Chemicals and allied products	23,480	I	642	2.8	D	245	1.0
Petroleum products	4,647	D	194	4.0	I	5	0.1
Stone, clay and glass products	10,884	D	500	4.4	D	385	3.5
Coke	5,173	D	180	3.4	D	12	0.2
Metals and products	7,917	D	217	2.7	D	1,093	13.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	16,488	I	2,997	22.2	I	152	0.9
Waste and scrap materials	8,604	I	708	9.0	D	63	0.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,237	D	763	9.5	D	637	8.8
All other carloads	58,264	I	6,934	13.5	D	79	0.1
LCL traffic	122	D	177	59.2	D	4	3.3
Total Cars Loaded	401,852	I	24,609	6.5	D	3,375	0.8
Corresponding week of 1983	377,243						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (32 weeks)	12,608,175	11,294,334	I 11.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
31 weeks ended August 4	550.3	477.7	I 15.2
Week ended August 11	18.0	16.5	I 9.0
32 weeks cumulative	568.4	494.2	I 15.0

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